Enfield Clean Energy Newsletter

The Committee

The Enfield Clean Energy Committee is a Town Committee made up of Enfield Residents interested in promoting Clean Renewable Energy.

The team members:

Jeff Myjak—Chair Ray Gwozdz - V. Chair Virginia Higley Steve Moriarty Greg Mark Doug Lombardi

LIAISONS:

Town Council: Tom Kienzler

Staff: Joel Cox

Points:



When we reach 200 points, we will be 1 step closer to getting a 2kw solar system.

Each Clean Option purchase is worth 1 point. Each Solar or Geothermal system is worth 3points.

Clean Option Points 154

System Points 63

Total Points 217

Volume I, Issue 6

May 2012

State lags in renewable energy goals

According to a recent article in the CTPost.com, If Connecticut does not develop more renewable resources, ratepayers could be passed on noncompliance fees of more than \$250 million annually by 2022, according to a draft version of the state's future energy plan.

Of all the New England states, Connecticut has the highest target for renewable generation: 20 percent by 2020, but it has few in-state resources to get that power, save for some projects that depend on statesponsored contracts.

The current projected amount of available renewable energy is not enough to meet mandated demands for all of New England that will emerge in 2018, according to a draft version of the state's Integrated Resource Plan prepared by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

The report, released by DEEP, recommends expanding what counts as renewable energy, specifically new energy efficiency initiatives. It also recommends allowing resources such as large hydropower dams in Canada to qualify as clean energy. The final version is scheduled to be submitted to the Connecticut General Assembly on April 23.

A submitted comment, signed by about 500 residents, says the state should not weaken or water down its renewable energy standards based on a six-year projection. Rather, the state should increase its renewables requirements to hasten the retirement of the Bridgeport Harbor coal plant, it said.

Lowering the requirement could also jeopardize Gov. Dannel P. Malloy's recommendation to build more micro grids in the state to ensure energy reliability during major storms, according to a comment submitted by the United Technologies Co.

The New England Power Generators Association is opposed to allowing hydropower to qualify, according to comments it submitted to DEEP. The renewable class is meant to apply to fledgling industries that could not survive without special designation and incentives, NEPGA said. Also, there needs to be a degree of regulatory certainty that rules and definitions won't constantly change, it said, otherwise investors in new energy technology may stay away from Connecticut.

Also, "in the case of some Canadian hydropower, the generation backing the transactions is not always identifiable and might come from nonrenewable sources," NEPGA said.

Connecticut has very limited instate renewable energy resources, according to the report, although it has the potential to build some small-scale wind, solar, fuel cell, hydro and biomass projects.

A lot of energy could come from wind farms in Maine, especially from wind power in northern New England, the plan said, but how to transmit that wind power remains uncertain. Also, renewable energy projects have had difficulty securing funding over the last three years, and federal tax credits set to expire in 2012 may not be renewed.

NRG Energy said the state should put out a request for proposals immediately for a new combined cycle natural gas turbine so that one can be built in time to prevent the shortfalls predicted in 2020. The local energy source would cut down on growing transmission costs, NRG said in its comments.

The good news for Connecticut residents is they can expect electricity rates to continue their downward trend over the next five years. That's because expanding shale gas supplies should keep the wholesale price of natural gas stable.

However, electricity rates will increase from 2017 to 2022, partly because of the state's requirements to get more energy from renewable sources.

Read more: http:// www.ctpost.com/local/article/ State-lags-in-renewable-energygoals-3450364.php

CLEAN ENERGY OPTION FAQ'S

Q: Are CL&P and UI affiliated with the clean energy companies?

A: Community Energy and 3 Dimensions are not affiliated with CL&P or UI. CL&P and UI make no profits from supporting the renewable energy program are only occupied on a periodic basis.

Q. Is there a governing body that oversees the renewable energy providers?

Both companies are licensed by the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC) and were selected by a competitive bidding process.

Q. What happens to my electrical service if I sign up?

All service continues to be handled exactly the same way through your primary utility.



Earth Day 2012 was celebrated on The Green in Enfield on Friday April 20th.



There was a variety of entertainment from a Lama from Muddyfoot Farms to folk singer Cameron Sutphin.



CL&P was there giving away tree saplings and a red maple tree was planted outside the



front steps to Town Hall. In all, over 200 people attended. Rockville bank was there offering free shredding of papers (things you don't want just thrown away).

On Saturday April 21st, Steve Moriarty opened his home up for an Eco Tour. He showed over 100 people how easy it is to compost, collect and reuse rainwater and how to make a space heater out of old soda cans.

Spring Into Savings! More Ways to Make your Home Energy More Efficient

Spring is the perfect time for new ideas in energy efficiency to bloom! Don't let lint reduce your dryer's efficiency! We suggest you start with your dryer.

As one of the most overlooked energy wasters in a home, your dryer is likely costing you more than it should. Fortunately, this can be easily remedied!

Here are 3 helpful hints:

One of the easiest things you can do to increase drying efficiency is to clean the lint trap before each and every load. This step can save you up to \$34 each year.

Don't over-dry your clothes. If your dryer has a moisture sensor that will automatically turn the machine off when clothes are done, use it to avoid over drying. A dryer operating an extra 15 minutes per load can cost you up to \$34, every year as well.

The foil or plastic hoses they give you when you purchase your dryer are massively inefficient. Any pipe should be designed with smooth surfaces and few turns to maximize efficiency. There are several alternatives available, from rigid pipe to self-contained vent systems, to replace the flexible hose systems.





Energy Financing Opportunities

Do you have a Clean Energy idea that you are looking for "seed and early-stage" funds for? Company may receive investments of up to \$1 million from the Clean Tech Fund for things such as :Renewable Energy Generation Technologies Including Wind, Wave, Biomass, Low impact hydropower, Landfill gas, Solar PV, Ocean thermal energy conversion devices, Fuel cells and Renewable Fuels.

Other opportunities include: Energy Efficiency Technologies, Solar thermal day-lighting or high efficiency lighting, Advanced motor technologies, Geothermal systems, Advanced energy storage technologies, Load management technologies and Grid power management systems.

You can develop Environmental Remediation Technologies such as Emissions control systems (NOx SO2, CO2, PM etc), Microbial / algal water clean up systems, Hazardous waste remediation

Some idea's for Clean Water Technologies can include: UV/

Filtration for potable water, Advanced waste water treatment technology and Water management technology.

For more information on how you can apply for fund, go to the CT Innovations website - http://www.ctinnovations.com/Portals/0/docs/Connections_CleanTech.pdf or contact any member of Enfield's Clean Energy Committee at CleanEnergy@Enfield.org